

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A radiation three-dimensional position detector, comprising:

5 a light receiving element having a light receiving plane, which outputs an electric signal corresponding to the incident position and intensity of light incident on the light receiving plane; and

10 a scintillator unit having scintillator cells each of which produces scintillation light corresponding to the radiation absorbed thereby,

15 wherein K layers of scintillator arrays (K is an integer number of 2 or greater), each having the scintillator cells arrayed in M rows - N columns two-dimensional matrix (each of M and N is an integer number of 2 or greater), are laminated on the light receiving plane of said light receiving element, and

20 wherein at least one of side faces of a scintillator cell $C_{k1,m,n}$ included in a scintillator array of the k1-th layer has different optical characteristic from that of the corresponding side face of a scintillator cell $C_{k2,m,n}$ included in a scintillator array of the k2-th layer, said

corresponding side face being located at the same two-dimensional position as said one of side faces in a plane parallel to the right receiving plane, provided that $C_{k,m,n}$ is defined as a scintillator cell located at m-th row and a n-th column within a scintillator array of the k-th layer ($1 \leq k \leq K$, $1 \leq m \leq M$, $1 \leq n \leq N$).

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2. A radiation three-dimensional position detector, comprising:

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a light receiving element having a light receiving plane, which outputs an electric signal corresponding to the incident position and intensity of light incident on the light receiving plane; and

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a scintillator unit having scintillator cells each of which produces scintillation light corresponding to the radiation absorbed thereby,

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wherein K layers of scintillator arrays (K is an integer number of 2 or greater), each having the scintillator cells arrayed in M rows - N columns two-dimensional matrix (each of M and N is an integer number of 2 or greater), are laminated on the light receiving plane of said light receiving element,

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wherein each of the scintillator cells
is separated from the adjacent scintillator
cells by partition mediums, and

5 wherein at least one of side faces of
a scintillator cell $C_{k1,m,n}$ included in a
scintillator array of the $k1$ -th layer is
faced with the partition medium which has
different optical characteristic from that
of the partition medium facing the
10 corresponding side face of a scintillator
cell $C_{k2,m,n}$ included in a scintillator array
of the $k2$ -th layer, said corresponding side
face being located at the same two-
dimensional position as said one of side
faces in a plane parallel to the right
15 receiving plane, provided that $C_{k,m,n}$ is
defined as a scintillator cell located at m -
th row and a n -th column within a
scintillator array of the k -th layer ($1 \leq k \leq K$,
20 $1 \leq m \leq M$, $1 \leq n \leq N$).

3. The radiation three-dimensional
position detector according to claim 2,
characterized in that said scintillator cell is
cuboidal in shape.

25 4. The radiation three-dimensional
position detector according to claim 2,

characterized in that the partition mediums between scintillator cells are made up of either of a reflective material and a translucent material with respect to said scintillation light,

5 an area enclosed by the partition medium of the reflective material in said k1-th layer scintillator array occupies different region in the plane parallel to the right receiving plane from a region occupied by an area enclosed by the
10 partition medium of the reflective material in said k2-th layer scintillator array.

5. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 4, characterized in that a position of the center of gravity of a light spot, where the scintillation light generated in one group of scintillator cells enclosed by the partition medium of the reflective material in a layer of the scintillator array reaches on the light receiving
15 plane, is different from a position of the center of gravity of a light spot, where the scintillation light generated in the other group of scintillator cells enclosed by the partition medium of the reflective material in a layer of the scintillator array reaches on the light receiving
20 plane,
25 is different from a position of the center of gravity of a light spot, where the scintillation light generated in the other group of scintillator cells enclosed by the partition medium of the reflective material in a layer of the scintillator array reaches on the light receiving plane.

6. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 2, characterized in that

5 in said k1-th layer scintillator array, each partition medium between a scintillator cell $C_{k1,p,n}$ and a scintillator cell $C_{k1,p+1,n}$, and each partition medium between a scintillator cell $C_{k1,m,q}$ and a scintillator cell $C_{k1,m,q+1}$ are made up 10 of reflective materials with respect to said scintillation light, and the other partition mediums are made up of translucent materials with respect to said scintillation light (each of p and q is an integer number in an arithmetic progression with a tolerance of 2, : $1 \leq p < M, 1 \leq q < N$);

15 in said k2-th layer scintillator array, each partition medium between a scintillator cell $C_{k2,r,n}$ and a scintillator cell $C_{k2,r+1,n}$, and each partition medium between a scintillator cell $C_{k2,m,s}$ and a scintillator cell $C_{k2,m,s+1}$ are made up 20 of reflective materials with respect to said scintillation light, and the other partition mediums are made up of translucent materials with respect to said scintillation light (each of r and s is an integer number in an arithmetic progression with a tolerance of 2, : $1 \leq r < M, 1 \leq s < N$, "p ≠ r" and/or "q ≠ s").

7. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 2, characterized by further comprising an operation section that calculates the three dimensional position where the radiation is absorbed in said scintillator unit based on the electric signal, the electric signal being outputted from the light receiving element, wherein the scintillation light produced in the scintillation unit is made incident on the light receiving plane.

8. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 5, further comprising an operation section, wherein said operation section calculates the position of the center of gravity of the light spot based on the electric signal, and calculates the three dimensional position where the radiation is absorbed in said scintillator unit based on the position of the center of gravity of the light spot on the light receiving plane.

9. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 7, characterized in that

said light receiving element has a plurality of output terminals for outputting said electric

signals, and

5 said operation section processes said electric signals outputted from the plurality of output terminals of said light receiving element to obtain an incident position of the scintillation light on said light receiving plane, and calculates the three dimensional position where the radiation is absorbed in said scintillator unit based on the incident position 10 of the scintillation light.

10. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 7, characterized in that

15 said light receiving element has a plurality of output terminals for outputting said electric signals, and

20 said operation section calculates energy of the radiation absorbed in the scintillator unit based on a sum of values of electric signals outputted from the plurality of output terminals of said light receiving element.

25 11. The radiation three-dimensional position detector according to claim 7, characterized in that

 said light receiving element has a plurality of output terminals for outputting said electric

signals, and

said operation section calculates energy of
the scintillation light generated in the
scintillator unit based on a sum of values of
5 electric signals outputted from the plurality of
output terminals of said light receiving element.

12. The radiation three-dimensional
position detector according to claim 7,
characterized in that said operation section
10 calculates energy of the radiation absorbed in
each of the scintillator cells.

13. The radiation three-dimensional
position detector according to claim 7,
characterized in that said operation section
15 calculates energy of the scintillation light
generated in each of the scintillator cells.